

GSW*

**NEWS
BULLETIN
AUG '77**

Ground Saucer Watch

"CIVILIAN AERIAL PHENOMENA RESEARCH ORGANIZATION"
13238 N. 7th DRIVE - PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85029

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EDITORIAL

As some of you may have noticed, our news bulletin has begun to take on an overall theme which is encompassed in the articles as well as our regular sections. This issue we decided to give our theme a name and we felt that the most appropriate one would be: "The Position of Scientific UFOlogy on Its 30th Anniversary." Because the collection and interpretation of data has become rather complex in the last 30 years, this issue will include statements on the politics of scientific research ("The Acapulco Resolution" by Bill Baum), the dissemination of information ("Coverage Rather Than Cover-up" by Dria Weedon), and the necessary scientific approach to UFOlogy ("UFOlogy: Science or Seance?" by Richard Gottlieb). Of course, all of the rest of the articles are also informative and interesting.

You may have noticed also that some new names have been added to the bulletin. Our editorial committee has increased in size since our last bulletin. In addition to our regular committee members: Lori Field (editor), Roberta Bull, John Schaefer, and Richard Gottlieb, our committee now includes Dria Wooden, Rosemary and Bill Baum. We hope you will enjoy this issue.

PERSONAL NOTE

With the changes that have recently been made in the Editorial Committee membership, one other change should be noted. I will not be serving as editor after this issue. This month I will be leaving Arizona to attend medical school in another state. A new editor has not yet been chosen, however, an announcement should be made in the December bulletin.

I have really enjoyed being a part of the editorial committee and helping to initiate the changes that have been made in the bulletin over the past year. I hope that these improvements have made the bulletin more concise and informative for our readership.

Although I shall not be editing the bulletin, I hope to remain an active member of the committee and I will hopefully be submitting articles for the bulletin periodically. I would also like to wish the future editor and other members of the Editorial Committee luck in the coming year.

Sincerely,
Lori Field

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Readership wishing to continue receiving the GSW News Bulletin should send \$2 (GSW members) or \$3 (GSW nonmembers) before the December 1977 issue to: NEWS BULLETIN, GSW-WD, 13238 N 7th Dr., Phx., AZ. 85029.

DIRECTLY SPEAKING: Acapulco Critique

By William H. Spaulding

During the week of April 17, 1977, I attended the First International UFO Congress held in Acapulco, Mexico. The purpose of this conference was to bring together the world's leading UFO "authorities" and the civilian organization directors for the purpose of establishing a united front on this vexing UFO phenomenon. Additional goals and objectives included the following:

1. A method to collect world-wide data-- including photographs.
2. A system to disseminate UFO data and materials to all interested countries.
3. A resolution, created by the participants of the Congress, stating specific goals and action items which will provide the proper avenues for scientific investigation of the phenomenon which can be presented to the United Nations.
4. A unified plan that would enable researchers to investigate the specialized fields of UFOlogy, without a duplication of effort.
5. A method of notifying the body politic and media of new, important revelations concerning the phenomenon.

All of the major American UFO organizations were well represented. Leading researchers from all over the world gave some outstanding papers and participated in heated debates on some of the key issues.

Unfortunately, the panel was split down the middle between the physical side of UFOlogy and the parapsychical. This difference in philosophy caused Dr. Hynek, Dennis Hauck, and myself some noticeable concern, especially during the first two days of the Congress, when the throngs of the media were being led to believe that the entire panel was pro-parapsychical. This festered to such an extent that I called a special news conference to present our true feelings on the matter.

The "American Collation", as we were paraphrased, presented the serious, scientific side of UFOlogy and set the stage for the media on our policies and goals. Some general aggravation of the panel was detected when GSW presented its computer photographic analyses on dozens of the "famous" UFO photographs and films. Many of the previous "bonafide" pictures fell to the computer's accurate methods. So many of the members of the panel had strongly believed in a particular piece of pictorial data based solely on the unsupported word of the witness(es) rather than the photographic data.

Our organization strongly believes that modern technology must be coupled with the serious research effort, otherwise we shall never gain the necessary recognition by the scientific community, so badly needed in this field.

I believe the efforts of the physical scientists and researchers, prevailed at the conference. I further believe that some good has come out of this grandiose meeting - as follows:

- a) Greater distribution of data on a global basis.
- b) An increased data base, including rare films and new pictorial information.
- c) Gracious media coverage and acknowledgement of the serious researcher.
- d) A unified plan to present to the United Nations.

For the first time in years, I can finally say we are getting close to our objectives and I personally feel GSW has one of the finest teams of serious researchers in UFOlogy.

ORGANIZATIONAL NEWS

GSW to Support Anti-UFO Group in Protestng Paranormal Explanations

By Dria Weedon

The Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal has formed a new group to provide the public and the news media with authoritative, no-nonsense information on UFOs.

This new group, composed mainly of anti-UFOlogists, will attempt to establish the "real facts" behind the sometimes far-fetched claims of UFO stories that have been accepted as fact by some UFO organizations and the general public. The UFO Subcommittee will focus its attention primarily on cases that major UFO groups or prominent investigators have been unable to explain in prosaic/terrestrial terms. Philip J. Klass, a blatant anti-UFOlogist, has been named Director of the Subcommittee. Associate Directors will be Robert Shaeffer, and James E. Oberg, who are both experienced UFO case investigators.

Ground Saucer Watch would like to announce its intention to aid this new organization in every possible way in its attempt to separate fact from fiction in order to clarify the position of serious UFO research today and present the truest possible picture of the UFO situation.

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Critique of the MUFON Symposium

By Lori Field
Editor

July 16 and 17 the 8th Annual MUFON Symposium was hosted by GSW at the Safari Hotel and Convention Center in Scottsdale, Arizona.

As would be anticipated, there was little national turnout in the Arizona summer heat, although speakers covered a wide variety of issues pertinent to UFOlogy.

The lecturers themselves were of varying abilities. Most gave no visual presentation to correspond with their lecture. In many cases, a lecture was exactly what was presented, and although I feel that information presented was well done as to content, presentation was not of the same quality in many cases.

Thomas Gates of Sunnyvale, California opened the symposium with an interesting categorization of UFO investigators and students of UFOlogy. He delved into the psychology behind the field investigation and the steps used to obtain information from witnesses. Those

expecting to extract anything but abstract logic from his presentation, however, were to go away empty-handed.

Following Gates, Dr. Alvin Lawson gave his presentation entitled, "What Can We Learn from Abduction Cases?" There was an interesting twist to Dr. Lawson's presentation. Expecting to listen to a weak abduction case review, I was surprised to find probably one of the most scientifically presented research reviews of the entire symposium. Dr. Lawson's research dealt with the process of regressive hypnosis. In his studies, he found many similarities between "real" and imagined abductions discussed by persons placed under hypnosis. Those asked to imagine that they were being abducted by inhabitants were given a battery of questions prior to the hypnotic session to assure the researchers of their lack of prior knowledge of UFOs. By Dr. Lawson's own admission, his research does not prove that no one is ever abducted by UFOs. Nor does it imply that regressive hypnosis is useless as a tool to extract information from witnesses. Information obtained through the use of this "tool" however, should be "taken with a grain of salt" while research continues into hypnosis and its use.

Bill Pitts, MUFON State Director for Arkansas, was the last speaker of the morning session. His presentation dealt with field investigations. He suggested that field investigators accept witness reports without preconceived interpretations or explanations of what the person actually saw. He also proposed that investigators look for logical explanations but that they avoid doing an investigation after deciding in advance that it is a hoax. Being a seasoned investigator himself, Pitts gave additional advice that both MUFON and GSW field investigators would be wise to follow.

The two Saturday afternoon speakers were scientists in their own rights in the so-called acceptable fields of science as well as in UFOlogy! Dr. William Hassell, Consultant in Propulsion, gave a talk entitled "Future Physics and Anti-Gravity." Although his lecture had an interesting and informative beginning which covered the history of physics, as Dr. Hassell discussed research that has been completed and is projected to be completed in the future, he lost most of his audience. Most of us, even those who are students of the basic sciences, did not have the backgrounds to comprehend all that he was discussing.

Dr. John Warren, MUFON Consultant in Physics, of Los Alamos, New Mexico gave an interesting discussion of the importance of the scientific method of investigating UFOs, including some do's and don'ts pertaining to the general study of UFOs. Dr. Warren also explained how we can prove or disprove the existence of UFOs, by scientific collection of and interpretation of data. Although he was a very composed and knowledgeable speaker, Dr. Warren's ties to the "National Enquirer" in a consultant capacity were a subject of criticism by the audience during the evening critique session.

The afternoon was completed with a demonstration of hypnosis by a surprise guest, Dr. McCall, who worked with Dr. Lawson and served as the hypnotist for all of the studies reported earlier in the day by Dr. Lawson. Since a volunteer was required and I like to give you first hand knowledge of the news (besides I'll be moving in a month), I decided to become the guinea pig. I suppose that

the hypnotic session was interesting, but unfortunately, I can't critique it because I slept through it.

The day's proceedings were topped off by a lecture by Stanton Friedman who calls himself the only known "full-time scientist in the field of UFOlogy." Mr. Friedman's presentation began as a very interesting description of the Zeta Reticuli map, as drawn by Betty Hill. He discussed a possible interpretation of this map and then he discussed implications of that particular interpretation.

Friedman is an accomplished lecturer and was very entertaining and interesting until he began his attack on Isaac Asimov, the well-known science fiction author, and what Friedman refers to as Asimovian logic, which is not logic at all. Admittedly, since Asimov does have a PhD in Biochemistry and is a well respected man, anything he says in the nonfiction category will be believed by many. This is particularly detrimental to UFOlogy if, as an anti-UFOlogist (according to Friedman), Asimov makes untrue statements to support his own contentions.

I do feel, however, that Friedman carried what I understood to be a bitter attack too far. As Friedman said himself, opinions don't count. What counts is data, and the personal attack on Asimov left little time for the presentation of any real data.

The last day of the symposium had only one speaker, William Spaulding, GSW-WD Director and MUFON State Director of Arizona. Mr. Spaulding's all photographic lecture included a description of the computer technology used to interpret photographic data. In addition, he presented both the photographs that GSW has labelled "bona fide" and those that the organization has labelled "put-ons" (misidentifications and hoaxes) based on the use of this technology.

Although Spaulding discussed a new technology, complete with its own unique set of terms, he was able to keep the audience's attention throughout his presentation and most left that day with a great deal of knowledge pertaining to that new process and to the interpretations of the many "UFO" photographs taken in the past 30 years of UFOlogy.

In my opinion, a critique of the symposium would not be complete without a pat on the back for William Spaulding and the members of GSW who organized and kept the entire two day meeting running smoothly and for Richard Gottlieb, a member of our own editorial committee, who served during the entire symposium as a very able and articulate moderator.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SCIENTIFICALLY ACCURATE UFO FILM TO BE RELEASED

Scotia American Productions will be releasing a full length, 90 minute color feature, entitled "Skywatch," which will contain the dramatic reenactment of a number of startling UFO cases. Scotia will use the real names of witnesses and government officials involved whenever possible. Material for the script is being gathered from the National Archives, interviews with witnesses, and contractual arrangements with various top civilian UFO researchers to provide data from their files.

Peter Kares, President of Scotia American Productions has appointed W. Todd Zechel as Technical Consultant for the film. Zechel, who is National Director of Research for GSW, is a former employee of two civilian Intelligence agencies. As technical Consultant for "Skywatch", Zechel is coordinating research being done for the script, and will work closely with the writers to help make the film as factual as possible.

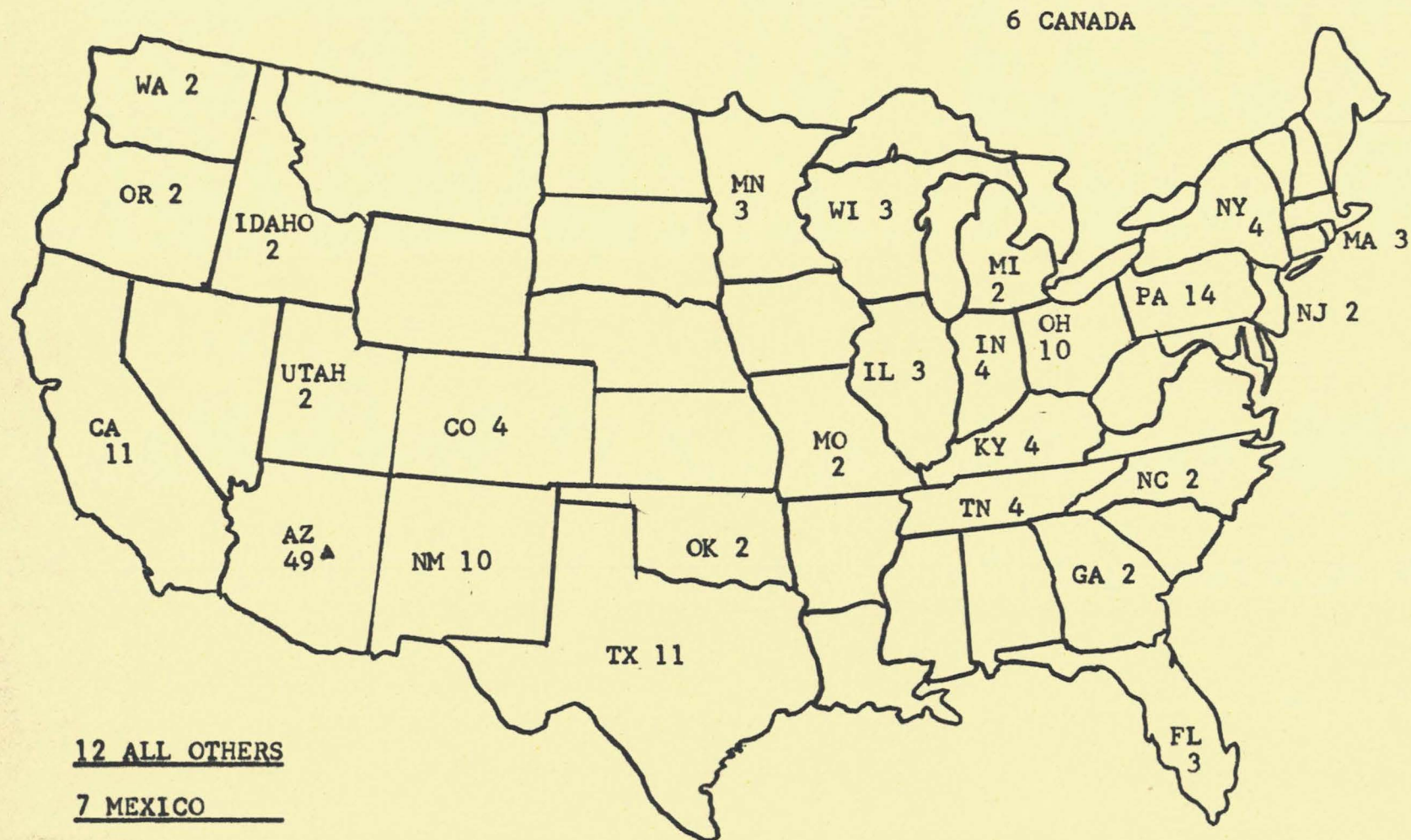
W. Todd Zechel is one of our country's leading authorities on the suppression of UFO evidence by the Intelligence Community. His background, working for the National Security Agency (NSA) in an overt role and for another agency in a covert role, enables him to speak with authority on intelligence operations. Zechel left intelligence work in 1974 after ten years of distinguished service, deciding at that point to bring to the attention of the American public the details of a long standing conspiracy, purportedly by the CIA and other agencies, to suppress the facts about UFOs.

Zechel lived for 2½ years in Wisconsin, where he worked as a newspaper editor and writer. During that time he traveled throughout the state to lecture about his and GSW's scientific approach to UFO research. He is currently working with Scotia on "Skywatch" and has plans for a book to be published shortly after the release of the film. Many of the cases from the film will be elaborated on in his book titled UFOs: Under Intelligence Control.

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ANNUAL GSW LECTURE

GSW will present its sixth annual comprehensive UFO lecture January 13, 1978 at the Safari Hotel in Scottsdale, Arizona. The lecture will be an intensive review of information GSW has been accumulating on the data repression policies to which government intelligence agencies adhere. William Spaulding and GSW Research Director, Todd Zechel, will present startling new facts on the CIA cover-up, borrowing from the by-then released UFO film, "Skywatch." Also being reviewed will be GSW's computerized photo enhancement technique and its contributions to ending the cover-up.



MAP OF SIGHTINGS

SIGHTINGS LOGGED IN BY GSW - EAST AND WEST. SIGHTINGS DO NOT CONSTITUTE REAL "UFOs"

1. 183 called in reports of UFOs.
 2. 26 reports (hard copy) received.
 3. Unknown rate (%) to date on March 1977 through July 1977 data, 3.5%.
 4. Arizona numbers do not include the Phoenix based advertisement airplane.
- THESE SIGHTINGS COVER THE PERIOD OF MARCH 1, 1977 THROUGH JULY 1977.

^ 40 sightings attributed to the planet venus (A.M. sightings)

MUFON/GSW VIEWS THE UFO STATUS QUO

By L. S. Stringfield
For MUFON/GSW

It is common knowledge among informed researchers that the UFO rates high on the agenda of world problems. It has long been a covert concern to all technically advanced governments. A new public awareness to the mystery has placed new pressures on private UFO research groups to intensify their efforts to probe the mystery, and find the answer.

With the proliferation of UFO activity since 1973, showing an increase in reported UFO landing and close encounter incidents, new distinguished names representing all fields of science have openly joined in research. Now there is a scientific urgency to identify the UFO's nature and origin. And finding those answers scientifically is the prime purpose of MUFON/GSW.

Theories as to the answer of the UFO's nature and origin are many and are amply known to MUFON/GSW. At this juncture in its continuing search for evidential proof, MUFON/GSW recognizes two major hypothetical realms which may provide a plausible or even a categorical answer:

1. That UFO's are surveillance vehicles (occupied and/or propelled) controlled by an advanced extraterrestrial intelligence.
2. That UFO's constitute an extra-dimensional or physical manifestation associated with planet Earth that is not understood by present day science, or possibly;
3. An interaction of both elements.

Irrespective to theory, MUFON/GSW is dedicated foremost to serve a twofold operation in its research:

1. Basically to study all UFO reports, endeavoring to find a meaningful pattern from correlated and computerized raw UFO data, and by employing scientific methodology, to achieve an understandable determination of the UFO's nature and origin.
2. To objectively disseminate the resultant and substantive facts of this study to the news media and the public.

Perhaps the most popular and plausible theory is that which characterizes the UFO as an intelligently controlled vehicle of extra-terrestrial origin. However, many technical questions remain to be answered before a commitment can be announced to the world qualifying the UFO as interplanetary.

MUFON/GSW is aware of the risks of making a premature judgement at this juncture, knowing that the constant input of new UFO data, or any single dramatic incident, may trigger a breakthrough to substantiate any one theory or show proof that two theories can be unified. For the present, MUFON/GSW will continue its critical examination of all the banked data which is broken down into four major categories, as follows:

1. To determine the nature of the UFO, its structure, aerodynamic principles and anomalous behaviour, (maneuverability, speed, nullification of gravity, etc..) method of propulsion, the physical trace evidence and residuals resulting from landings and close encounters, and computerization to determine the authenticity of photographs allegedly showing UFOs.
2. To determine the origin of the UFO, conceivably from our solar system or another distant star system in our galaxy, or from an extra-dimensional realm in space and time not yet determined by our laws of science.
3. To determine the nature of the UFO humanoid occupants, their degree of intelligence, behaviorism, physiognomy, and their functional or tactical assignment.
4. To determine the means of communication used by the intelligence inherent with the UFO. Other than radio astronomy in search for signals from outer space, research depends on the UFO and/or humanoid contact for communicative evidence.

The strongest evidence in support of the UFO's existence, essential before hypotheses can be explored, is in MUFON's and GSW's updated statistical and photographic data to be released during the MUFON symposium.

Significant is the computerization of 80,000 individual UFO entries, including those from the Air Force's Project Bluebook files, many of which bear physical trace evidence as a result of UFO landings and close encounter incidents. Most of these cases have been investigated on-the-spot by research teams, some warranting laboratory analyses.

Also significant is the increasing number of recently reported UFO landing and close encounter incidents where, in some instances, witnesses also report humanoid activity. These incredible reports are made by credible people usually preferring anonymity to avoid publicity and ridicule.

Weighing the massive evidence accumulated since World War II, MUFON/GSW finds the UFO, and even its occupant stories, no laughing matter.

Evidence of CIA Involvement in Withholding UFO Information

On April 23, 1977, a few days after U.S. News and World Report revealed that information concerning UFO's is soon to be released ("Washington Whispers," 4-18-77) William Spaulding, Director GSW/WD, held a press conference in Phoenix. The conference dealt with evidence that GSW has acquired which will serve as proof of CIA involvement after the "Robertson Panel." The following is a statement made at that press conference.

"The reason I've called this conference is to inform you of some rather startling developments in UFO research. These developments have been brought about by research being conducted by members of our organization, Ground Saucer Watch, and deal mainly with the involvement of the Central Intelligence Agency in the suppression of UFO evidence."

"One of the main thrusts of our research has been to document the suppression of UFO evidence by various branches of the government. What we have found, through research of the National Archives, Freedom of Information Act requests, and confidential interviews with various past and present Air Force, CIA, NASA, NSA and other government personnel, is that the CIA seems to be the agency primarily involved with withholding information on the subject of UFOs."

"I have with me today a letter we received from the CIA in response to a Freedom of Information Act request we submitted. The letter is dated March 26th, 1976 and is signed by Gene F. Wilson, Information and Privacy Coordinator, CIA, Washington, D.C. Let me read to you the second paragraph of the CIA letter."

"In order that you may be aware of the true facts concerning the involvement of the CIA in the investigation of UFO phenomena, let me give you the following brief history. Late in 1952, the National Security Council levied upon the CIA the requirement to determine if the existence of UFOs would create a danger to the national security of the United States. The Office of Scientific Intelligence established the Intelligence Advisory Committee to study the matter. That committee made the recommendations found at the bottom of page 1 and the top four lines of page 2 of the Robertson Panel Report. At no time prior to the formation of the Robertson Panel and subsequent to the issuance of the panel's report, has the CIA engaged in the study of the UFO phenomena. The Robertson Panel Report is summation of the Agency's interest and involvement in this matter."

"Gentlemen, besides contradicting themselves with the documents they enclosed with the letter I just finished reading you an excerpt from, I have two other documents pertaining to the CIA which contradict the Agency's officially stated position in the March 26 letter."

"One of the documents is a letter dated September 19, 1973, signed by John M. Maury, Legislative Counsel for the CIA. The letter is addressed to Larry Bryant, an independent UFO investigator, and is a response to a query about a CIA agent's visit to the headquarters of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, a civilian UFO research group, on 19 January 1965. On the date mentioned, a CIA agent came to NICAP, identified himself as "Bill Coleman" and interviewed Mr. Richard Hall, then Acting Director of NICAP. Hall was asked a number of questions about NICAP's research efforts, which he answered, and was then given a box number to write to and a phone number to call in case he had any "interesting" UFO cases to report. "Coleman" said he

would be glad to receive anything Hall might send him and took some reports with him. Later, the connection was severed through disuse, after the Agency failed to respond to the materials they were sent."

"The third paragraph of Maury's letter to Bryant states: 'In January 1965, the Agency made an inquiry into the research being conducted on UFO sightings and contacted Mr. Hall, then acting NICAP Director. Mr. Hall explained how his organization operated and loaned the Agency several of its publications which were reviewed and returned. No excerpts were made from the publications, nor did the Agency come to any conclusions on the substance therein. There was no further contact with Mr. Hall or any other representative of his organization, and the Agency had no further interest in the subject of UFOs.'"

"This admission by Maury in the 1973 letter obviously grossly contradicts the Agency's position as stated in the 1976 letter to GSW. Moreover, I have before me another document one of our researchers obtained from the Project Blue Book files currently being stored in the National Archives. The document pertains to foreign UFO sightings and attributes the source of the sighting reports as a number of listed CIA intelligence reports. Apparently, the CIA obtained the UFO reports - photographs are also mentioned - from foreign intelligence sources, including, most likely, the CIA's Foreign Broadcast Information Service."

"The most striking aspect of the Blue Book document relating to the CIA is the date - October 25, 1954; over one year after the CIA now states it discontinued any interest or involvement in UFO research! Beyond that, GSW has testimony from a confidential, high-level Air Force source who was directly involved in UFO research during the late '50s and early '60s that he was receiving the same type of reports from the CIA during that period (58-64). This source stated in an interview that both UFO sighting reports and UFO photographs were sent to him at Project Blue Book by the CIA for his perusal. This source says that CIA has always been heavily involved in UFO research and he suspects this involvement has continued right up to the present!"

"I would also like to call your attention to an item in the "Washington Whispers" column of the April 18, 1977, issue of the U.S. News & World Report magazine. Under a headline of "Official Word Coming on 'UFOs'.." the following paragraph appears: 'Before the year is out, the Government - perhaps the President - is expected to make what are described as "unsettling disclosures" about UFOs - unidentified flying objects. Such revelations, based on information from the CIA, would be a reversal of official policy that in the past has downgraded UFO incidents.'"

"The magazine's management was queried about this item and it was reported that the information 'came from a reliable authority.' There's an unsubstantiated rumor that White House Press Secretary Jody Powell leaked the UFO item, ostensibly as some sort of test. However, at this time no one seems to know what exactly is forthcoming in the way of disclosures about UFOs; high-level CIA sources say they are unaware of any such move."

"Regardless of whether the CIA chooses to clear the air or not, GSW believes it has enough information at hand to conclusively prove that the CIA has been involved in UFO research from 1947 on. We also feel that we can establish that the CIA is guilty of violations of its charter by engaging in the suppression of domestic UFO evidence, including sending Contact Division agents to intimidate UFO photographers into silence. Moreover, we can prove beyond a shadow of a doubt that the CIA has given us a runaround in dealing with our FOI Requests, including not responding to our latest request in which we listed the documents sought by the CIA's own identifying numbers. It has been over 6 months since we submitted this request and to date we haven't even received an acknowledgment."

COVERAGE RATHER THAN COVER-UP

By Dria Weedon
Research Committee

The UFOlogists of the world are slowly leaving the comfortable security of their closets and becoming acceptable members of the scientific community, which is now showing more of an inclination to give serious thought to the UFO phenomenon. Thanks to the Acapulco conference, with its roster of formidable and impressive names of scientists and prominent research representatives attending, excellent press coverage by the media was given and well-received by the public. Much of the skepticism and scorn which seemed to dog the reputations of the foremost authorities in the UFO field has been dropped in recent months and a new approach of acceptance and credibility is being seen whenever the names of these researchers and their organizations are mentioned.

Excellent press coverage was given in articles published by such notable dailies as "The New York Times" (April 21, 1977) which wrote in straightforward terms of the suppression of UFO information by the CIA and U.S. Armed Forces. William H. Spaulding, Director of Ground Saucer Watch-WD, was quoted on his remarks that a UFO cover-up operation was still in existence despite government protests to the contrary.

The "Washington Post" (4/27/77) published a favorable piece, mainly quoting the noted UFOlogist, Dr. J. Allan Hynek, that the worldwide stand on the UFO phenomenon is becoming one of respect instead of ridicule. Dr. Hynek spoke of current moves in other countries to organize a scientific research and study program of UFOs in the open instead of covertly, as seen in the United States, with its attitude of concealment by government agencies.

The "Arizona Republic" (4/26/77) also carried an article, again quoting William Spaulding of GSW on the CIA cover-up operation. A UFO researcher from West Berlin, Charles Huffer, told the press of his attempts to open government files through the Freedom of Information Act and of the negative attitude on the part of these government agencies in responding to his requests.

All of these articles were written in an unbiased and straightforward manner. The news media and the public are accepting the scientific and sociological implications of the UFO phenomenon in a realistic manner instead of the tongue-in-cheek attitude seen so often in the past. And, according to GSW Director, William Spaulding, additional forthright articles on the UFO story are forthcoming too. He has been contacted by "Reader's Digest," "New West Magazine," and "Newsweek" to present the UFO story in credible terms. Hopefully, this trend of giving serious voice to the UFO phenomenon will continue and a smoother road will be paved for the UFOlogist and his research.

Part of this opening of avenues previously closed to UFO research and the unbiased reception of UFOlogy now being seen may be due to a statement made by President Jimmy Carter that he himself sighted a UFO in Leary, Georgia in 1969. And the "U.S. News and World Report" (4/18/77) carried in its "Washington Whispers" column a press release made by Jody Powell, Pres. Carter's Press Secretary, that "unsettling

disclosures" about UFOs are expected to be made by the government sometime this year. These revelations, apparently in cooperation with the CIA, would bring new light to the subject of the UFO phenomenon. Hopefully too, it will be a major breakthrough for all UFOlogists who have been pressuring government agencies to release such information to the public. It has been stated that 51% of the American people believe in UFOs and would not be greatly alarmed if given proof of their validity. The time is long overdue to present the "facts behind the myth" and open the lines of communication between the government and the scientific civilian UFO research groups.

All this publicity can only be for the good, and UFOlogists and their organizations are heartened by such excellent coverage. The UFO movement will prosper with this publicity and UFO researchers will soon be able to work openly with this phenomenon and leave their closets forever.

THE ACAPULCO RESOLUTION

By Bill Baum
Research Committee

From April 18 to 24, 1977, William Spaulding, GSW-WD, was present at the First International Congress on UFO Phenomena at the Convention Center, Acapulco, Mexico.

During the procedures, the Prime Minister of Grenada, Sir Eric Matthew Gairy, proposed a resolution that urged the United Nations organization to establish an "agency or department" for research into matters involving UFOs. Prime Minister Gairy urged for more wide-spread release of accumulated data on UFOs during the 30th and 31st sessions of the general assembly during which some member governments expressed great interest and support.

The International Congress unanimously agreed to stand behind him in his efforts to acquire U.N. participation and put on record its acceptance of the invitation to hold the Second International Congress in Grenada within two years under United Nations sponsorship.

This letter was written to the editor of Science magazine in response to an article that was in that magazine's May 6 issue. The letter was written by Dr. Bruce Maccabee.

Dear Sir:

To one, like myself who has studied the available scientific literature on UFO reports (e.g. the "Condon Report" (1) and the book by Dr. J.A. Hynek (2)), the article by Kuiper and Morris, "Searching for Extraterrestrial Civilizations" (6 May 1977, page 616) is quite amusing. In their appendix entitled "On the Present Lack of Contact with Extraterrestrial Beings", they have presented several "scenarios" in which extraterrestrials, for reasons we can only guess at, interact with the earth and/or its inhabitants in a more or less covert manner while avoiding direct contact with the masses of humanity. It is most amusing to note that a typical interaction, in their words, "could be affected with no more attention from us than a UFO article or a missing person's report." Thus they seem to imply that we should study UFO articles and missing person's reports for evidence that extraterrestrials may be making covert or unintentional contacts with humans.

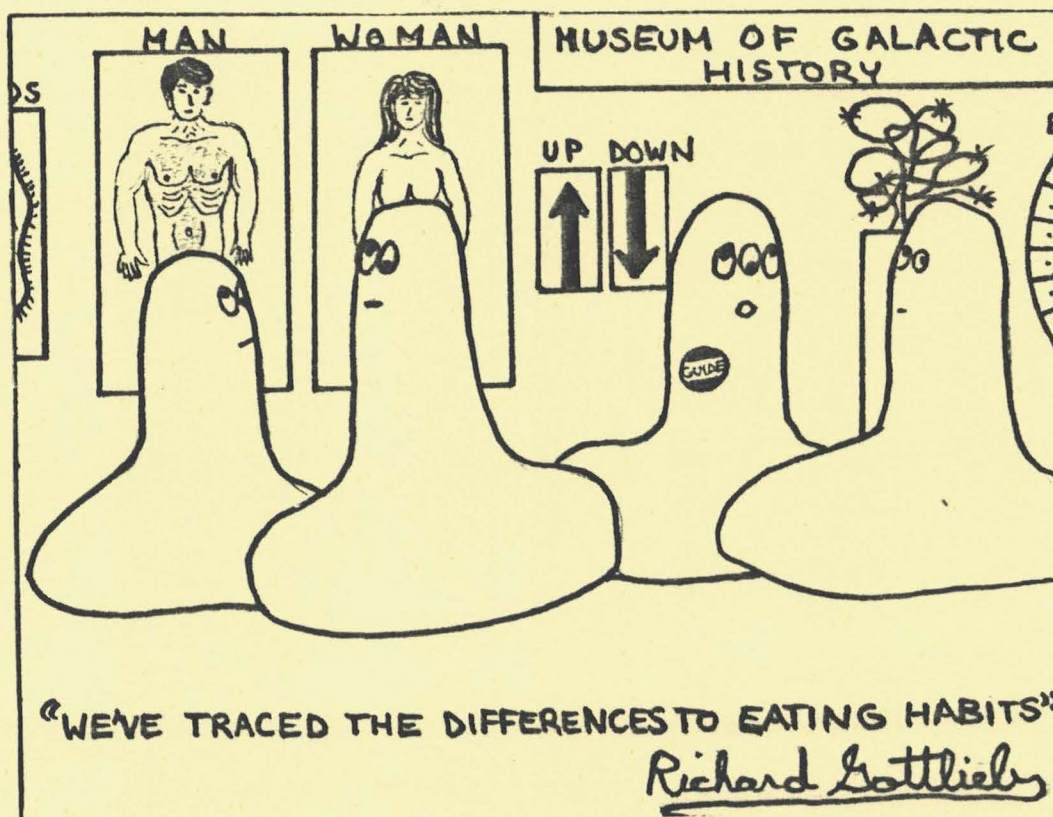
Considering the rather low priority that most scientists, even those interested in searching for evidence of extraterrestrials, assign to UFO reports, it is not surprising to note that only one low key reference is made to the voluminous UFO literature. However, this reference is made in the context of what extraterrestrials might be doing when contact is made (e.g., removing material from the earth, taking samples for "biological or psychological studies (including even an occasional human)"). This reference is therefore especially interesting because, as one who is familiar with UFO literature is well aware (and this probably includes the authors), there are many reports that, taken at face value, contain descriptions that are consistent with what these authors expect extraterrestrials would be doing (collecting samples, etc.) However, there are also many reports that contain descriptions of phenomena that seem to violate the laws of physics as we know them, and for this reason (along with cultist aspects and hoaxes) the study of UFO reports is not considered to be a worthy scientific endeavor. (Nevertheless, as Hynek (2) has pointed out, there is an "invisible college" of scientists who are interested in UFO reports and who do scientific studies of the information obtained from such reports.)

If one ignores all the reports that can be reasonably explained, all the reports that contain "violations" of physics, all the reports that contain descriptions of "creatures", and all reports with cultist or "psychic" aspects, one is left with a hard core of reports that contain detailed descriptions of objects that appear machine-like and/or appear to move about with intent (i.e., not strictly curvilinear motions, but not totally random motions, either). These reports are not like reports of "mythical" creatures such as fairies, goblins, ghosts, and other personages. Instead, these reports contain descriptions of impersonal objects that often appear as baffling curiosities that create rational rather than emotional interest within the witness(es). Many witnesses of such phenomena report their observations to others with the expectation that what they saw will be explained by the "experts". For those who may not be aware that detailed reports exist, I can supply, (as examples, 1) a copy of a 1949 report of

a craft witnessed by five people, two of whom were aeronautical engineers at the Ames Research Laboratory, and 2) a copy of a 1976 report of "bright lights" interacting with two Iranian Air Force jets.

The frustrating thing about so-called UFO's is that they do not make themselves available for laboratory or field studies. (Of course the witnesses are available and have been "studied" many times.) Therefore it is not Suprising that most physical scientists have not taken more than a passing interest in studying UFO reports. However, this does not mean that we can't learn something from such reports. As Kuiper and Morris point out, in order to learn about extraterrestrial contact it may be necessary to venture beyond the "realm proper to physics and astronomy" and to enlist the help of "experts in the relevant disciplines" who Will address the questions concerning the impact of UFO reports on the search forextraterrestrial intelligence.

Sincerely,
Dr. Bruce S. Maccabee



UFOlogy: Science or Seance?

By Richard Gottlieb
Research Committee

The study of UFOs, often referred to as "UFOlogy," has never acquired a fully scientific status in the eyes of either the scientific community or the general public. This lack of credibility has resulted from several sources, including lack of public interest by the federal government, lack of study by well-established technical research organizations, a questionable array of personalities claiming authoritative insight, lack of centralized leadership among serious researchers, and many others. A problem of great significance has been the serious researcher's own history of investigative bungling. Much information critical to objective analyses has been lost in the process of field investigation. Methods of data acquisition have been limited, and those persons attempting to carry them out were often less than professional. And even when the data were properly amassed, consultants - with all their experience and training - often were forced to make subjective evaluations, leading to multiple and contradictory conclusions. In short, the civilian research effort was a necessary but sorry alternative to no study at all.

Toward the late 1960's it became evident to serious researchers that strict scientific methodology coupled with the latest applicable technical advancements must necessarily be employed if solid conclusions are to be drawn, and if the scientific community and the general public are going to accept (or at least test) them. Several individuals and organizations, including GSW, led the way in pushing for the physical science approach. Dr. David Saunders, then on the infamous "Condon Committee," pulled a technical coup on his peers by applying computer pattern studies to the UFO phenomenon. His basic assumptions were simple. High correlations between UFO sighting parameters (i.e., size, shape, altitude, color, flight characteristics, etc..) and those exhibited by natural or man-made objects should (by Occam's Razor) be evidence that the former sightings are generally explicable as being the latter objects. Granted such a correlation is not solid proof that any one object is an object from the category with which it is correlated. However, it is similar to a statistical proof, being the simplest and best explanation for the majority of cases. By patternizing over 70,000 UFO sightings in a computer pre-programmed with the parameters of most known aeronautical, meteorological, and astronomical objects, Saunders took the first serious step toward scientifically explaining the UFO phenomenon.

Further steps were taken by several of the civilian UFO organizations. Attempts to improve and standardize field investigative methodology were made. Sophisticated radiation-detection equipment was purchased, chemical laboratories were commissioned to conduct soil-sample analyses, and field investigators were trained to carry out the improved procedures jointly accepted by the major organizations. Moves to consolidate the organizations into one massive research body under a single directorship were attempted, but failed due to political squabbling over who would run it. None-the-less, communications remained open, and each organization became both a data source and a scientific critic of the others.

Recently, one of the most practical tools to be applied to the study emerged with GSW's presentation of its patented computerized photographic analysis technique. The process, a correlate to the Pasadena Jet Propulsion Laboratories' reconnaissance satellite photo interpretation process, has generated both excitement and controversy since its unveiling. The excitement came when it was used to re-examine over 600 UFO photos previously labelled authentic by researchers using conventional analytical techniques. To the dismay of many, most of these pictures were immediately detected to be either misinterpretations, photographic anomalies, or deliberate hoaxes. Yet, despite the most advanced and thorough photographic analysis technique now available, over 25 photos passed! The computer showed these to be solid metallic objects of large size with no supporting structures, with unusual luminosity or high surface temperature*, with manufacturing grain and detailed superstructure, etc... These were definitely not plastic models, ball lightning, or lenticular clouds. For the first time, UFO photos could be confidently offered as evidence for a given case.

The new process also generated some controversy. Among those photos deemed "explainable" by the process were several of our peer's favorites. Understandably, no one likes to have his hypothesis undercut by a peer or a friend. However, they cannot criticize our conclusions unless they discredit the process. We welcome any criticisms based on scientific or technical grounds (saying that the witness sounded believable does not constitute an acceptable criticism).

Unfortunately, the increasing interest in the physical science approach to UFOlogy is counter-balanced by a trend toward the paranormal in some circles. Serious researchers have always had to contend with UFO contacteeism, generally defined as the presentation of a fantastic story about contact with extraterrestrials with no supportive evidence (almost always these are single witness cases). Another constant annoyance has been the sensationalization of UFO accounts by low credibility (but high readership) scandal-sheet-type magazines. These two problems have seriously challenged the credibility of the serious researcher. However, they are negligible compared to the potential crippling problem looming around the corner.

Some researchers are under the impression that the physical science approach to UFOlogy has yielded all the information that it will, and thus alternative sources should be sought. They seem to believe that the unusual subject under study demands extraordinary investigative methodology. GSW could not more vehemently disagree! Physicists confronted with conflicting data on a non-isolable sub-atomic particle do not run to their neighborhood psychic for help! Physicians troubled with an unknown virus do not climb Mt. Everest in search of a holy man! Chemists backtracking an unexpected chemical reaction do not decide on a mechanism with a pair of dice!

The unexpected is to be expected in scientific research, and the difficulties encountered therein are what make the final discoveries so rewarding. One cannot abandon the scientific approach just because progress is slow, and expect to remain credible. No other approach to problem-solving has historically been so successful, and no other shows as much promise for the future. Of course, the scientific method is not foolproof. It is not even a single standardized

* With IR film/techniques

method, but rather a way of looking at the world. It is a way of generating ideas, of hypothesis testing, of theory evaluation by peers, and of constructing paradigms. It has stood the test of time and has become an inextricable part of society. Abandoning it in favor of a paranormal approach to UFOlogy would be tantamount to the dissolution of all serious UFO research.

If some researchers wish to study the phenomenon through ESP, the occult, religion, or any other nonscientific medium, that is their business. But the major UFO research organizations must totally disassociate themselves from these people if any credibility is to be maintained. Our conclusions will not be worth beans to the public if they appear to come from a bunch of bug-eyed loonies who hold seances for case evaluations.

If some people wish to chase fairies and call it science, let them. However, we will never solve the mystery if we go that route. We have made mistakes in the past and will undoubtedly make more. Yet, scientists who make mistakes are not so shamed as scientists who are proven unscientific. If the UFO mystery is solvable, and we are convinced that it is, the physical science approach will eventually solve it. If we want to find that solution, we must not deviate from that method. We must keep UFOlogy a "science," not a "seance."

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Editor of OFFICIAL UFO Resigns

The following is a news release from Dennis William Hauck, Editor of OFFICIAL UFO Magazine:

"It is with a sense of deep personal regret that I must announce the perpetration of a hoax in the pages of OFFICIAL UFO. As editor of this newsstand magazine, I have sought to disseminate authenticated UFO material to a public almost too eager for information about this intriguing subject. It is this indiscriminate eagerness that, I believe, has prompted the publisher to present a most sensational and totally false case on the cover of the July 1977 OFFICIAL UFO.

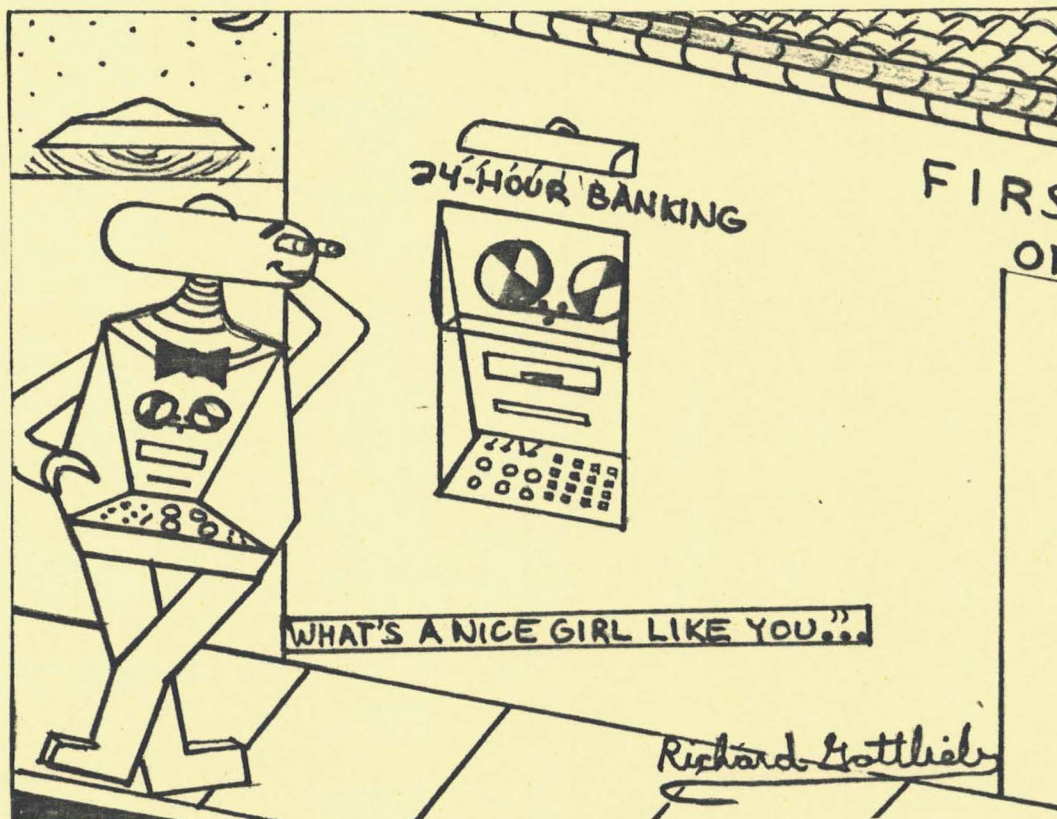
As an editor and employee of Countrywide Publications, I know that the idea for this "case" was conceived by publisher Myron Fass and his personal secretary. I have taken certain precautions to be able to prove my allegation and I ask all representatives of the media involved in publishing UFO information to alert the public to this obvious, unsubstantiated hoax. We are all aware of the real harm to the field of ufology that a false case can do should it enter the literature.

I have enclosed a copy of the cover for your information. Again I must emphasize that not a single word of this story, presented in the form of a letter from a bereaved mother, is based in fact.

Although my efforts to stop publication of this case (this issue is now six weeks late) have been futile, I feel that no real damage will be done if I renounce it now. Needless to say, I have submitted my resignation over this issue and will be staying on at Countrywide only long enough to insure the integrity of my last issue (September 1977) and to protect the interests of those writers who have conscientiously

followed my guidelines of "authenticated, well researched articles!"

Personally I feel that my reputation has been "used" to add credence to a falsehood and the whole episode underscores the contempt with which some publishers hold their reading audience. I have learned a lesson from my association with Countrywide. I hope that my colleagues in publishing will also reassess their handling of UFO information."



SITUATION RED: THE UFO SIEGE
BY
LEONARD STRINGFIELD

Reviewed by Rosemary Baum
Research Committee

Leonard Stringfield is a long time UFO researcher. In his book, Situation Red: the UFO Siege, he conveys many of his experiences to the public. Though I found many of the UFO cases he compiled to be unusual, some good enough to be enjoyed around the proverbial camp-fire, he does make an attempt to cite heretofore little known facts. Government suppression of facts and control of the public by the press are the two most important claims to be noticed by the average reader.

Unfortunately for myself or any involved researcher, Situation Red comes off a little like a collection of strange tales. We all have been deluged with individual UFO cases until we're saturated; we know the questions. What we need are answers. Stringfield fails to supply even something to ponder in the way of probable solutions. His conclusions and opinions regarding the cases he discussed were plausible, but at times he tended toward sensationalism. At least he tries to bring in all view points of the subject.

Situation Red is an interesting book, though not quite what UFOlogy needs. Rather it needs something that scientifically analyzes the obtainable hard data. We need to compile all the known facts and attempt to answer the as yet unanswered questions, to fill the current knowledge gap. I wouldn't recommend Situation Red to the scientific community or a Dr. Sagan, however, I would recommend the book to the majority of the UFO investigators.

SUGGESTED READING

For those UFO researchers who are seriously interested in keeping abreast of the latest developments in the field of UFOlogy, GSW recommends the following publications:

MUFON'S UFO JOURNAL
MUFON, Inc.
103 Oldtowne Road
Seguin, Texas 78155

\$10.00/ yr
Attn: Mr. Walt Andrus
(Formerly called Skylook Magazine)

INTERNATIONAL UFO REPORTER
924 Chicago Ave.
Evanston, Illinois 60202

\$12.00 / yr.
Editor: Allan Hendry

OFFICIAL UFO
Countrywide Publications
258 Park Ave., S.
New York, N.Y. 10010

9 issues \$8.00

UFO PULSE-ANALYZER
Box 15
Willowdale, Ontario
Canada M2N5P0

\$10.00 for 10 issues
Editor: Mr. Harry Tokarz